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March 11, 2010

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**"Dylan has demonstrated his merit and his talents, both through his academic life and with his strong desire to serve our country, and I congratulate him on his appointment,"** said Congressman Melancon.

**"An honor roll student and football star, Dylan still found time to tutor his classmates and coach youth baseball. With his appointment to the Merchant Marine Academy, Dylan is well on his way to a promising future serving our country, and is proudly following in the footsteps of his father, a Gulf War veteran."**

**"Young people like Dylan who show a commitment to public service are a reminder that the United States has a bright future. I wish him only success at the Academy, and hope he inspires other young people in south Louisiana to consider a career in military service."**

Dylan Lovergne commented, **"I am so excited about the possibilities that the appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy presents to me and my future endeavors. This opportunity will give me the chance to pursue avenues that would not have normally been available to me. I would like to thank Congressman Melancon and Senator Landrieu for believing in me and giving me their nomination to the Merchant Marine Academy."**

Academy students, known as midshipmen, are trained in marine engineering, navigation, ship's administration, maritime law, personnel management, international law, customs, and many other subjects important to the task of running a large ship. Graduates may elect to fulfill their service obligation by working as licensed officers on U.S. flagged merchant vessels, as

civilians in the maritime industry, or as active duty officers in any branch of the armed forces of the United States. Graduates are required to maintain their US Coast Guard-issued merchant marine officer's license for a period of at least 6 years.

Dylan was [one of eight south Louisiana students](#) Congressman Melancon nominated for U.S. service academy appointments this year. Students interested in applying for a nomination from Congressman Melancon to a service academy can fill out an application on his website [here](#)

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[www.melancon.house.gov](http://www.melancon.house.gov)

, click on "How Can I Help You?" and select "US Service Academy Nominations.")

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